

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/973,395

Examiner

El Hadji M. Sall

Applicant(s)

MITO ET AL.

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/26/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-6 and 8-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

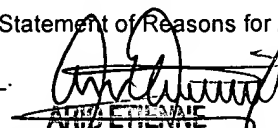
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


ANTHONY ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the correspondence filed on October 26, 2005.
Claims 1,3-6 and 8-12 represent information distribution method and system.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William Louis on January 11, 2006.

The application has been amended. Claims 11 and 12 are amended.

On claims 11 and 12, change "A computer program product for permitting a computer to perform:" on lines 1-2 to "A computer readable medium containing one or more programs which permits a computer to perform the following steps:", and delete "a function for" on lines 3, 4, 6, 8 of claim 11, and on lines 3, 4, 8, 11, 13 and 15 of claim 12.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1,3-6 and 8-12 are allowed.

4. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.109 and M.P.E.P. 1302.14, the following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest individually or in combination the claimed limitations of "said first information processing apparatus recording first information for a user; said second information processing apparatus recording second information for said user; said first information processing apparatus, while referring to said first information, generating a single first choice or multiple first choices concerning said information; said second information processing apparatus receiving said first single or multiple choices from said first information processing apparatus via said network; said second information processing apparatus, while referring to said second information, selecting as a single second choice said single first choice or selecting multiple second choices from among said multiple first choices concerning said information; said second information processing apparatus requesting that said first information processing apparatus obtain part or all of said information correlated with said single second choice or said multiple second choices; said first information processing apparatus transmitting said requested information to said second information processing apparatus, and said second information processing apparatus

Art Unit: 2157

receiving said requested information; and said second information processing apparatus displaying said received information, wherein said first information is information concerning said user that can be disclosed, and said second information is secret information held by said user." as in claims 1,3-6 and 8-12.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

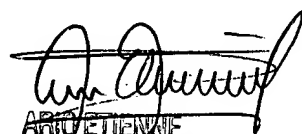
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to El Hadji Sall whose telephone number is (571)272-4010. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-4010.

Art Unit: 2157

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

El Hadji Sall
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2157


ARIETTE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100